



The Professionalization of Tutoring: Focusing on Our Why – A Brief Overview

MARK MANASSE

INSTRUCTIONAL LEARNING ASSISTANCE COORDINATOR

3CSN'S LEARNING ASSISTANCE PROJECT (LAP) CO-COORDINATOR



What, How, Why, & WHO

Start with our Why

Why (do we do it) → How (do we do it) → What (do we do)

Be Cognizant of Assumptions

The Danger of the Single Story

We Can't Forget About Our WE

“It’s not just what you know; it’s who you know it with”

Empathy vs. Sympathy

JANUARY 2016

**3CSN: MISSION, THEORY OF
CHANGE, AND NETWORK
BUILDING**



Mission

Develop leaders in California community colleges who have the capacity to facilitate networks of faculty, staff, and students for curricular and institutional redesigns in support of increased student access, success, equity, and completion.



Theory of Change

If we provide training on networking and we use action research methodologies, community college professionals will transform their environments and identities to create communities of practice (such as LAP) that will produce powerful learning and working across campuses. This will lead to greater student success.



Building Networks that Work

- Identify a Shared Problem
- Create a Shared Vision of Possible Solutions
- Build a Sustained Community of Practitioners

Tutoring Community of Practice: Learning Assistance Project (LAP)

Shared vision of the possible:

- If it makes faculty/staff feel engaged and energized, it will do the same for tutors
- If tutors see themselves as educators and professionals, they will improve themselves AND deliver better services to students
- Tutors our future colleagues and bosses!



LAP: Mission and Principles

Mission: Professionalization of Tutoring

Principles:

1. Tutors are educational professionals.
2. Training should be rigorous, practical, and sustainable.
3. Instructors and tutors have different yet equitable roles.
4. Tutoring is about student empowerment.
5. Tutoring contributes to student success.

MT2C Updates

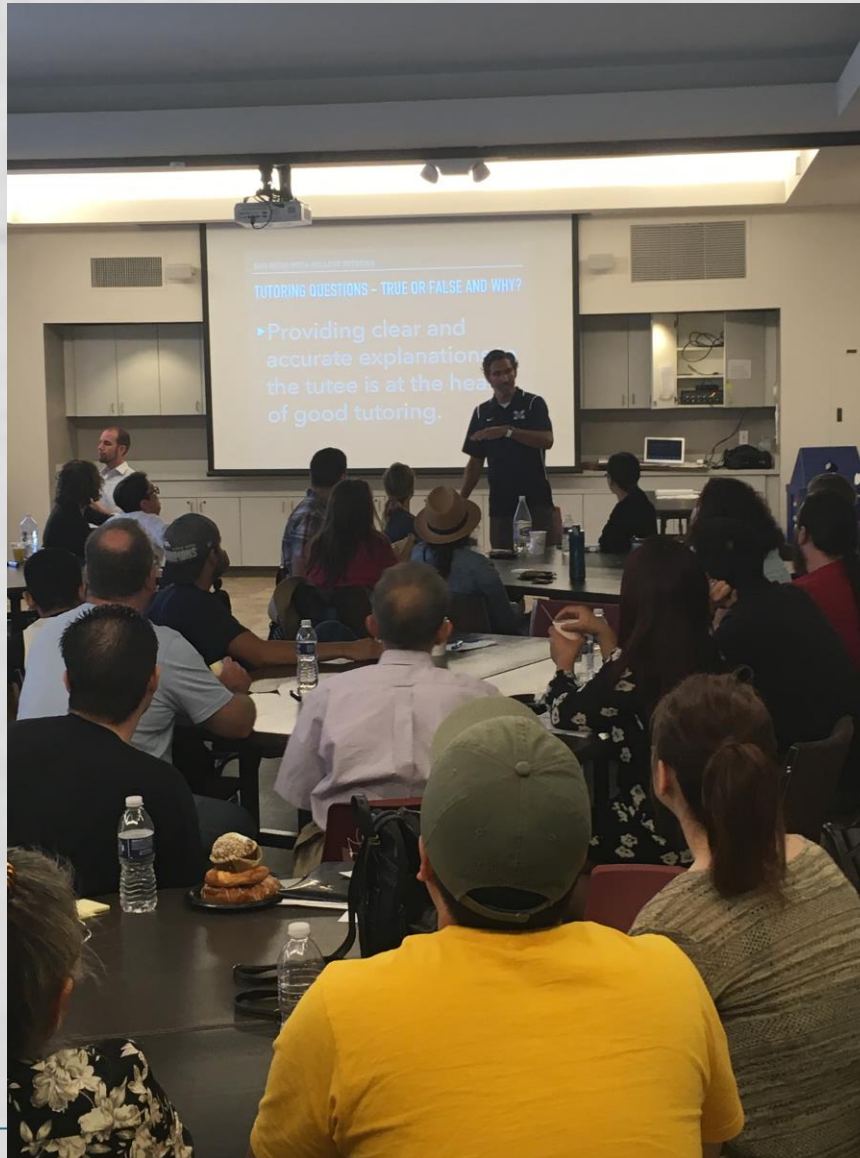
Mesa Tutoring And
Computing Centers

June 24, 2016

Retreat Summary



Tutor *and* Coordinator Inspired



Tutors Leading Conversations



Tutors Sharing Expertise



Tutors Leading Tutors



Working with Institutional Research



Introduced Bill Peters Tutor of the Year Award



Professional Focus

- We defined/worked on SIX areas for MT2C:
 - Community of Practice
 - Evaluation
 - Online Tutoring
 - Rigorous Tutoring Training
 - Tutoring
 - Professionalization of Tutoring
- We also did some visioning: *We just won an award for our outstanding Tutoring program. All of our colleagues are standing and clapping.*
 - What is our award for?*
 - What have we accomplished*

FLASH FOWARD TO OCTOBER 2016

Fostering Professional Learning IESI Conference: Riverside, CA



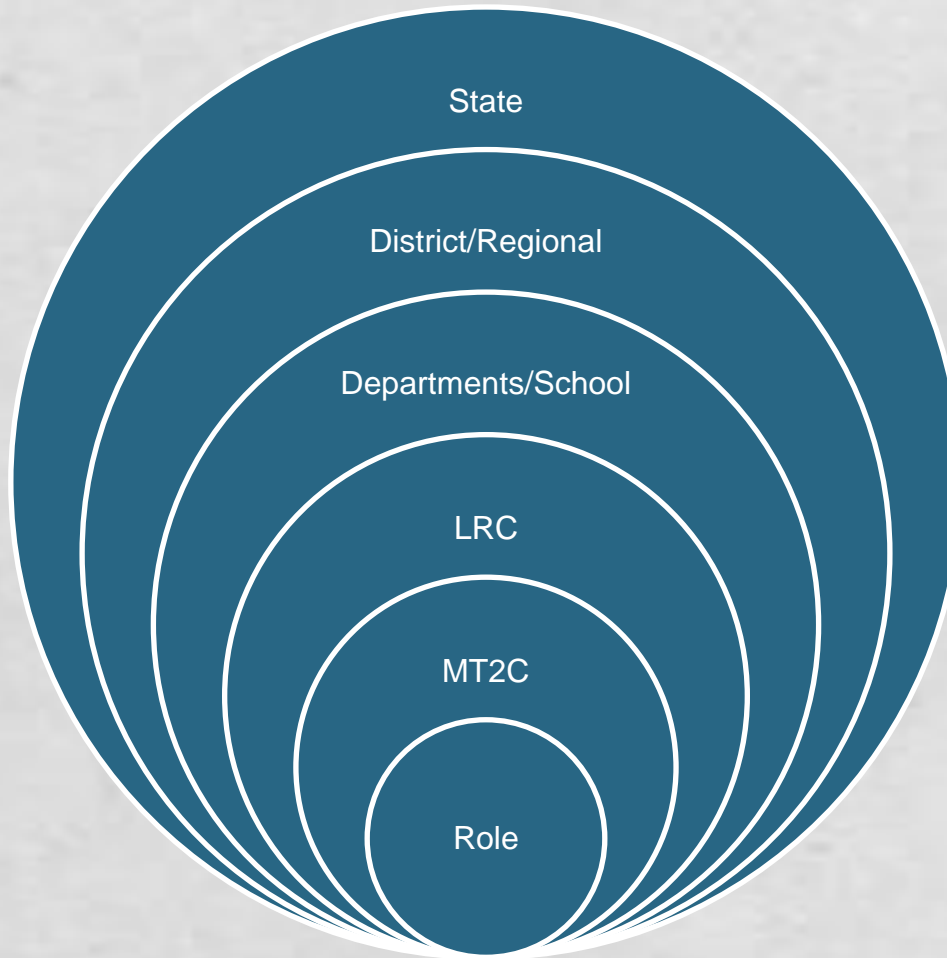
Moving Forward

- Based off of retreat and work with the MT2C leadership team....

Name, Floors, Hours, Services

- Based off of your input...name is now
Mesa Tutoring and Computing Centers (MT2C)
- Floors
 - LRC 1st Floor: MT2C General Tutoring (for subjects other than writing, languages, math, and science) and Computing
 - LRC 2nd Floor: MT2C Writing & Languages
 - LRC 4th Floor: MT2C Math & Science Tutoring and Computing
- Expanded Tutoring Hours
 - Monday-Thursday 9AM-8PM
 - Friday-Saturday 9AM-2PM
 - Embedded and Online

MT2C Lenses



Program Feedback Loop

MT2C Evaluation Cycle

Stakeholder	Spring 16	Fall 16	Spring 17	Fall 17	Spring 18	Fall 18	Spring 19	Fall 19	Spring 20	Fall 20	Spring 21	Fall 21	Spring 22
Student User/Non-user	Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo		Quant/Demo
Student User			Survey		Survey				Survey				Survey
Student Non-user		Survey		Survey				Survey				Survey	
Tutor		Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback	Given Feedback
			Focus Group		Survey				Focus Group		Survey		
Coordinator/IA			Given Feedback		Given Feedback		Given Feedback		Given Feedback		Given Feedback		Given Feedback
					Survey						Survey		
Faculty	Survey					Survey				Survey			
Admin				Focus Group??						Focus Group??			

Professional Program Certification: CRLA

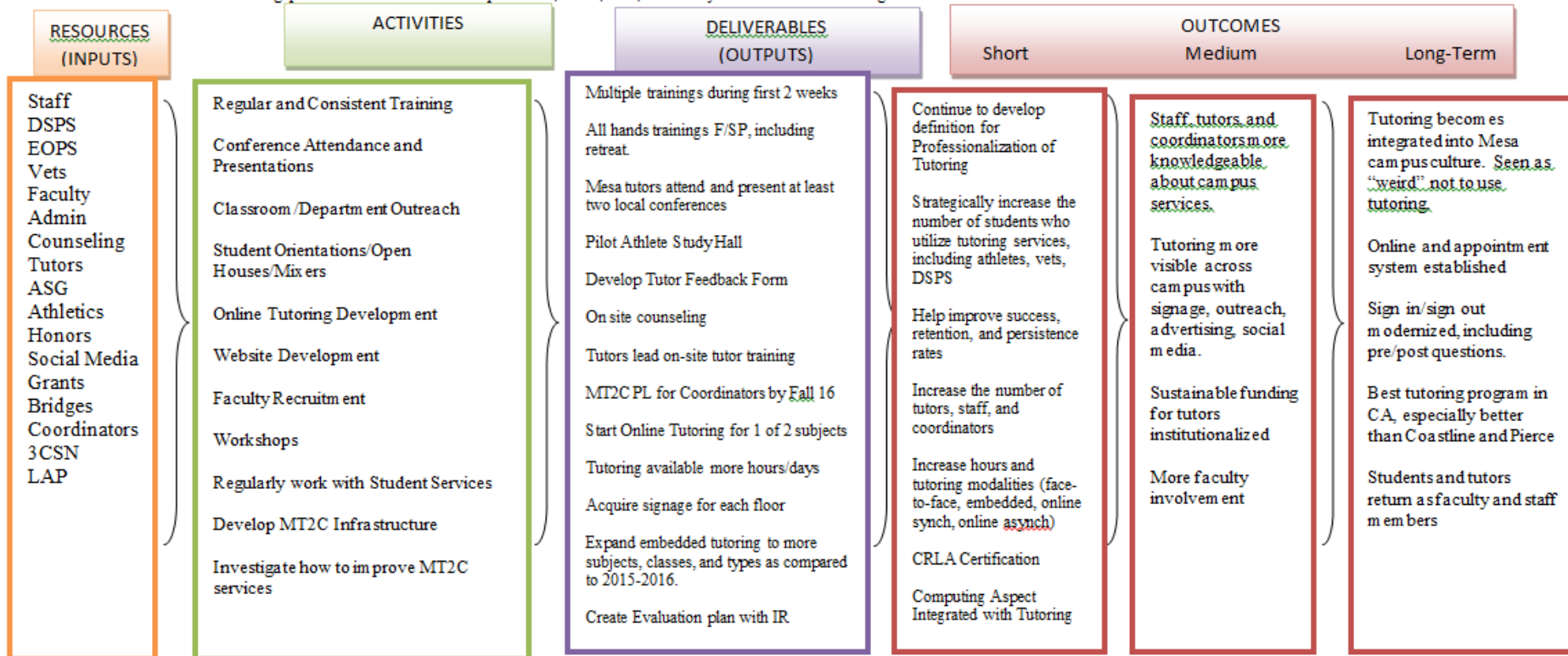
- Going for three levels of certification
- Helps review what is going well and what needs improvement with a Tutoring Program

Logic Model and Mission Statement Creation

Theory of Change: If we provide professionalized training on networking as well as engage in action research, community college professionals will transform their environments and identities to create communities of practice (CoPs). These CoPs will produce powerful learning and innovation across the state, which will lead to greater student success. The MT2C believes that this transformation will take place at Mesa College if we share impactful, relevant professional learning with tutors and other learning assistance professionals, thus fostering our CoP among tutors, faculty, staff, & administrators. Then, when we start with our WHY:

- Tutors and other learning assistance educators will recognize themselves as empowered professionals who are an integral, equitable part of the institution;
- This professionalization of tutoring will yield improved services to our students and contribute to a campus wide culture of student success;
- The learning assistance domain will become a more central part of the institution;
- Tutors will develop a strong foundation necessary to become successful professionals.

Our Mission: Promote independent learning and confidence through empowering relationships. Support the learning process by continually creating a welcoming and safe space. Foster a community of learners. At the heart of our mission is cultivating professionalism in order to help students, tutors, staff, and faculty succeed and reach their goals.



Assumptions: Tutoring is for everyone. Students, faculty, staff, and campus want a robust tutoring program. MT2C is the primary campus resource for tutoring and computing.

External Factors: Marginalization of tutoring centers. Funding. Cohesive tutoring practices. Infrastructure. Removing tutoring stigma and developing a definition for "Professionalization of Tutoring."

DRAFT Mission Statement

- **Promote** independent learning and confidence through empowering relationships. **Support** the learning process by continually creating a welcoming and safe space. **Foster** a community of learners. At the heart of our mission is cultivating professionalism in order to help students, tutors, staff, and faculty succeed and reach their goals.

Where We Are Now

MT2C now has....

- Thriving Professional Learning Opportunities for Tutors
- Developed Professional Learning for Leadership Team
- Programmatic Support for Conference Attendance and Participation
 - Over 30 tutors going to Riverside
- Utilization of Growing Space in LRC
- Developed a Program Evaluation Cycle:
 - Faculty Program Perceptions Spring 2016
 - Student Program Perceptions Fall 2016
- Growing Leadership Team: Tutor Reps, More IAs, and More Tutors
- Expanded Hours
- Expanded Embedded Tutoring
- Expanded Online Tutoring

What's Still to Come...

MT2C will...

- Complete Theory of Change, Mission, Short/Long Goals (Spring 17)
- Represent Mesa as *the* Model Tutoring Program at Tutor Expo (Spring 17)
- Develop Deeper and Individualized Tutor Feedback
 - Pilot 1: Fall 2016
 - Pilot 2: Spring 2017
- Grow the Leadership Team: More Faculty Participation (2017)
- Embed Counseling into MT2C (2017)
- Expand Tutoring Services in class, out of class, and online (ongoing)
- Provide Even More Professional Learning Opportunities (ongoing)
 - First two weeks of semester, All Tutor Training, and Tutor Expo
- Develop a Tutor Mentorship Program (2017)
- Complete International Program Certification (CRLA) (2017...hopefully!)
- Develop Computing aspect of MT2C